

REMARKS

The disclosure was objected to by the Examiner because of the graphic table on page 21 of the specification. Corrections have been made to the specification and the drawings which do not add new matter to the case.

Formal drawings are submitted herewith under separate Letter to the Official Draftsperson. It is believed these drawings satisfy the objection noted by the Examiner. Approval by the Examiner of these drawings is respectfully requested.

Claims 25, 26, 28-32 and 35 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kyricos (5,445,876; figures 1, 2; col. 1, lines 5-20; col. 2, line 63 to col. 3, line 21; col. 4, line 36 to col. 5, line 29; claim 9).

The Examiner has misinterpreted the disclosure of Kyricos as set forth in all of the specific portions of the Kyricos reference cited by the Examiner. Kyricos is discussing the size of a binder, and not the preferred desiccant particles which are made of zeolite. The zeolite particles, which are the desiccant, clearly are not in any way in the size range specified in claim 25 of the present invention. As the Examiner has previously noted, desiccant particles as specified in claim 1 have the same specificity as in claim 25. Claim 25 has been amended to clearly specify the claimed material is water absorbing. It is believed that the claim as previously written was clear, and this was the intention, so this change is only formal in nature and does not affect the scope of the claim. Particle size is an important feature of the present invention, and the Examiner has recognized that it is not shown or suggested by the prior art. There is no reason why one skilled in the art would have zeolite particles in the range specified in claim 25. This is fully discussed in Applicants' last response to the United States Patent and Trademark Office. It is believed that claim 25 defines unobvious subject matter and should be allowable.

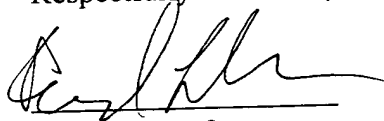
It is believed that these changes now make the claims clear and definite and, if there are any problems with these changes, Applicants' attorney would appreciate a telephone call.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed none of the references, taken singly or in combination, disclose the claimed invention. Accordingly, this

application is believed to be in condition for allowance, the notice of which is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to Show Changes Made"**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ray L. Owens', written over a horizontal line.

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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In the Drawings:

A new figure 8 has been added.

In the Specification:

A new paragraph has been added on page 9, line 31 as set forth below:

FIG. 8 is a graph which shows % mass changed based on CaO vs. time.

The paragraph beginning on page 20, line 16 has been amended as set forth below:

Calcium oxide particles with an average size of 0.02 μm , 0.1 μm , and 4 μm were compared for water absorption rate. Three mixtures of 25wt% calcium oxide were dispersed in solutions of 17 wt% polyethylmethacrylate (Water Vapor Transmission Rate of 28 gm-mil/100in²/day) dissolved in ethyl acetate. The desiccant packages were formed on the interior surface of a pre-weighed aluminum weighing pan and baked at 150°C for 2 hrs to remove the ethyl acetate. The samples were re-weighed to determine initial desiccant layer mass. The samples were then placed into a humidity chamber at 73°F and 70% RH. The samples were removed periodically and weighed to determine the water absorption rate of the different desiccant packages. The results [were:] are shown in FIG. 8. FIG. 8 depicts water absorptivity of CaO/PEMA desiccants based on particle size of calcium oxide at 73F/70% RH chamber.

The table on page 21 has been deleted.

In the Claims:

Claim 25 has been amended as set forth below:

25. (Twice Amended) A desiccant, comprising material including at least in part solid particles of one or more water-absorbing materials, at least one of such water-absorbing materials having an average particle size in a range of 0.001 to less than 0.1 micrometers to provide a high rate of water absorption and to provide an equilibrium minimum humidity level lower than a

humidity level to which a highly moisture sensitive electronic device is sensitive within a sealed enclosure.